

Remarks

Claims 1-16 are pending in the application and are rejected.

Examiner interview

The undersigned thanks Examiners Amaya and Sircus for the courtesy of a personal interview on August 24, 2006.

Claim rejections

Section 103

Claim 1-7 and 14 were rejected under 35 USC 103(a) as being unpatentable over Freeman et al. (US 6,519,539) ("Freeman"). The Applicant respectfully traverses. Freeman cannot support the asserted rejection for at least the reason that Freeman does not disclose or suggest an operation control portion that is connectable to a moving object control system and that performs operation control of the fuel cell by issuing an operational instruction to the control system, as recited in claim 1. Independent claim 14 recites similar features. Withdrawal of the asserted rejection under section 102(e) is therefore respectfully requested.

Claims 8-11 were rejected under 35 USC 103(a) as being unpatentable over Freeman in view of Aoyagi et al. (US 6,815,100) ("Aoyagi"). The Applicant respectfully traverses. Claims 8-11 depend on claim 1 and are therefore allowable over Freeman. Aoyagi does not cure the deficiencies in Freeman. Withdrawal of the asserted rejections is therefore respectfully requested.

Claims 12 and 15 were rejected under 35 USC 103(a) as being unpatentable over Freeman in view of Masayuki (JP 2001-010861). The Applicant respectfully traverses. Claims 12 and 15 depend on claims 1 and 14 respectively, and are therefore allowable over Freeman. Masayuki does not cure the deficiencies in Freeman. Withdrawal of the asserted rejections is therefore respectfully requested.

Objections to the claims

Claims 13 and 16 were objected to. Withdrawal of this objection is respectfully requested in view of the allowability of claims 1 and 14 as discussed above.

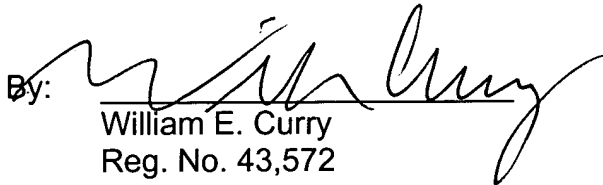
Conclusion

In light of the above discussion, Applicant respectfully submits that the present application is in all aspects in allowable condition, and earnestly solicits favorable reconsideration and early issuance of a Notice of Allowance.

The Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at (202) 220-4323 to discuss any matter concerning this application. The Office is authorized to charge any fees related to this communication to Deposit Account No. 11-0600.

Respectfully submitted,

Dated: September 1, 2006

By: 
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